# Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity **Ukraine**





# Monitoring and surveillance

Overweight and obesity in three age groups

#### Adults (20 years and over)

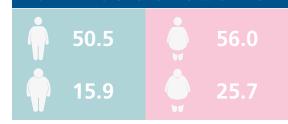
Intercountry comparable overweight and obesity estimates from 2008 (1) show that 53.5% of the adult population ( $\geq$  20 years old) in Ukraine were overweight and 21.3% were obese. The prevalence of overweight was lower among men (50.5%) than women (56.0%). The proportion of men and women that were obese was 15.9% and 25.7%, respectively. Adulthood obesity prevalence forecasts (2010–2030) predict that in 2020, 32% of men and 10% of women will be obese. By 2030, the model predicts that 49% of men and 6% of women will be obese.<sup>1</sup>

This is one of the 53 country profiles covering developments in nutrition, physical activity and obesity in the WHO European Region. The full set of individual profiles and an overview report including methodology and summary can be downloaded from the WHO Regional Office for Europe web site: http://www.euro.who.int/en/nutrition-country-profiles.

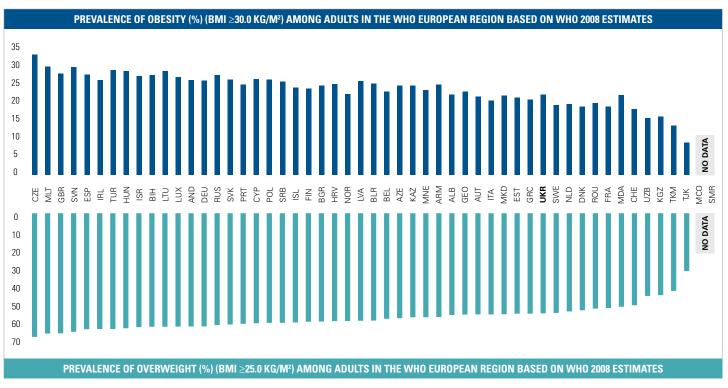
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DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	
Total population	45 448 000
Median age (years)	39.3
Life expectancy at birth (years) female   male	74.6   63.5
GDP per capita (US\$)	3035.0
GDP spent on health (%)	7.7

PREVALENCE OF OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY (%) AMONG UKRAINIAN ADULTS BASED ON WHO 2008 ESTIMATES



Source: WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository (1).



Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Data ranking for obesity is intentionally the same as for the overweight data. BMI: body mass index. Source: WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository (1).

<sup>1</sup> Report on modelling adulthood obesity across the WHO European Region, prepared by consultants (led by T. Marsh and colleagues) for the WHO Regional Office for Europe in 2013.

The Regional Office is grateful to the European Commission (EC) for its financial support for the development of the nutrition, obesity and physical activity database that provided data for this country profile.

#### Adolescents (10–19 years)

In terms of prevalence of overweight and obesity in adolescents, up to 22% of boys and 12% of girls among 11-year-olds were overweight, according to data from the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) survey (2009/2010).<sup>2</sup> Among 13-year-olds, the corresponding figures were 21% for boys and 9% for girls, and among 15-year-olds, 17% and 8%, respectively *(2)*.

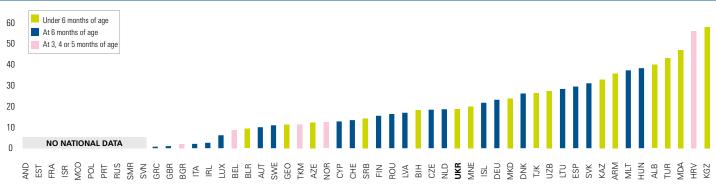
#### Children (0–9 years)

No prevalence figures are available for overweight and obesity in schoolchildren based on measured intercountry comparable data. Ukraine is not yet participating in the WHO European Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative (COSI).

# Exclusive breastfeeding until 6 months of age

Nationally representative data from 2007 show that the prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months of age was 18.2% in Ukraine.<sup>3</sup>

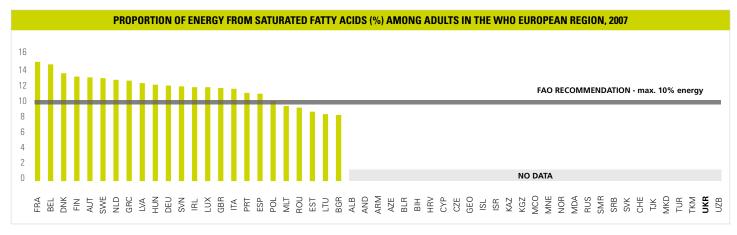
# PREVALENCE OF EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING (%) UNDER OR AT 6 MONTHS OF AGE FROM INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY-BASED SURVEYS, VARIOUS YEARS



Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Data were derived from country-specific publications on surveys carried out in this field, not as part of a Europeanwide survey. Due to different data collection methods of the country-specific surveys, any comparisons between countries must be made with caution. Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on breastfeeding.

# Saturated fat intake

No data are available.



Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Ranking of data was carried out so that country data at the right-hand side of the graph – with values below the FAO recommendation – fall within the positive frame of the indicator. FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Source: FAOSTAT (3).

PREVALENCE OF OVERWEIGHT (%) IN UKRAINIAN<br/>ADOLESCENTS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTED DATA ON<br/>HEIGHT AND WEIGHT)221221917811-year-olds13-year-olds15-year-olds

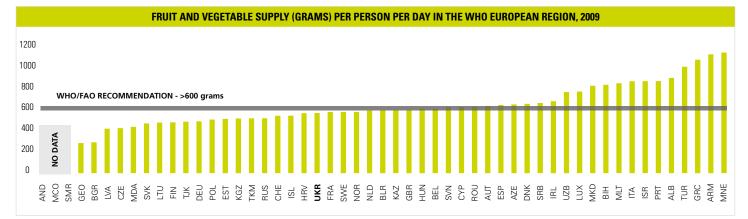
Source: Currie et al. (2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Based on 2007 WHO growth reference.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on breastfeeding.

# Fruit and vegetable supply

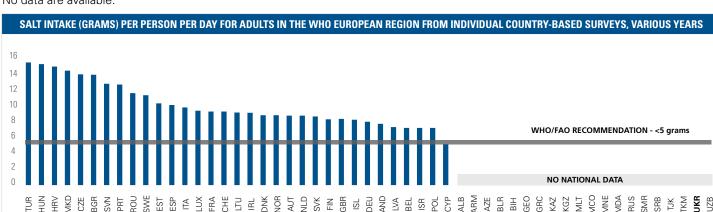
Ukraine had a fruit and vegetable supply of 560 grams per capita per day, according to 2009 estimates (3).



*Notes.* The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Ranking of data was carried out so that country data at the right-hand side of the graph – with values above the WHO/FAO recommendation – fall within the positive frame of the indicator. *Source:* FAOSTAT (3).

# Salt intake

#### No data are available.



*Notes.* The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Data were derived from country-specific publications on surveys carried out in this field, not as part of a Europeanwide survey. Due to different data collection methods of the country-specific surveys, any comparisons between countries must be made with caution. Ranking of data was carried out so that country data at the right-hand side of the graph – with values below the WHO/FAO recommendation – fall within the positive frame of the indicator. *Source:* WHO Regional Office for Europe (4).

#### **lodine status**

According to the most recent estimates on iodine status, published in 2012, the proportion of the population with an iodine level lower than 100 µg/L was 56.2% (5, 6).

# **Physical inactivity**

In Ukraine, 19.8% of the population aged 15 years and over were insufficiently active (men 20.7% and women 19.1%), according to estimates generated for 2008 by WHO (1).

# **Policies and actions**

The table below displays (a) monitoring and evaluation methods of salt intake in Ukraine; (b) the stakeholder approach toward salt reduction; and (c) the population approach in terms of labelling and consumer awareness initiatives (4).

# Salt reduction initiatives

Monitoring & evaluation	Stakeholder approach			Population approach						
			Labelling	Consumer awareness initiatives						
Industry self-reporting			Specific		Brochure	TV	Web site	Education	Conference	Reporting
Salt content in food	Industry involvement	Food reformulation	F000 food		Print	Radio	Software	Schools		
Salt intake								Health	alth	
Consumer awareness								care facilities		
Behavioural change								identites		
Urinary salt excretion (24 hrs)										

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe (4).

# Trans fatty acids (TFA) policies

industry approaches.

Price	policies	(food	taxation	and	subsidies)	
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School fruit schemes

Taxes

Legislation	Type of legislation	Measure

*Source:* WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on diet and the use of fiscal policy in the control and prevention of noncommunicable diseases.

# Marketing of food and non-alcoholic beverages to children (7)

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on TFA and health, TFA policy and food

No specific regulation in Ukraine restricts the marketing of unhealthy food and non-alcoholic beverages to children.

# Physical activity (PA), national policy documents and action plans

Sport	Target groups	Health	Educ	ation	Transp	ortation
Existence of national "sport for all" policy and/or national "sport for all" implementation programme	Existence of specific scheme or programme for community interventions to promote PA in the elderly	Counselling on PA as part of primary health care activities	Mandatory physical education in primary and secondary schools	Inclusion of PA in general teaching training	National or subnational schemes promoting active travel to school	Existence of an incentive scheme for companies or employees to promote active travel to work
<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>			✔a			

<sup>a</sup> Clearly stated in a policy document, partially implemented or enforced.

Source: country reporting template on Ukraine from 2009 developed in the context of a WHO/EC project on monitoring progress on improving nutrition and PA and preventing obesity in the European Union (EU).

# Leadership, partnerships and professional networks on health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA)

Existence of national coordination mechanism on HEPA promotion	Leading institution	Participating bodies

Source: country reporting template on Ukraine from 2009 developed in the context of a WHO/EC project on monitoring progress on improving nutrition and PA and preventing obesity in the EU.

### PA recommendations, goals and surveillance

Existence of national recommendation on HEPA	Target groups adressed by national HEPA policy	PA included in the national health monitoring system

Source: country reporting template on Ukraine from 2009 developed in the context of a WHO/EC project on monitoring progress on improving nutrition and PA and preventing obesity in the EU.

# References

- 1. WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository [online database]. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2013 (http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main, accessed 21 May 2013).
- Currie C et al., eds. Social determinants of health and well-being among young people: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study: international report from the 2009/2010 survey. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2012 (Health Policy for Children and Adolescents, No. 6) (http://www.euro.who.int/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0003/163857/Socialdeterminants-of-health-and-well-being-among-young-people.pdf, accessed 21 May 2013).
- 3. FAOSTAT [online database]. Rome, Statistics Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2013 (http://faostat.fao.org/, accessed 21 May 2013).
- 4. Mapping salt reduction initiatives in the WHO European Region. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2013 (http://www.euro.who.int/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0009/186462/ Mapping-salt-reduction-initiatives-in-the-WHO-European-Region-final.pdf, accessed 29 May 2013).
- 5. Andersson M, Karumbunathan V, Zimmermann MB. Global iodine status in 2011 and trends over the past decade. Journal of Nutrition, 2012, 142(4):744–750.
- 6. Zimmerman MB, Andersson M. Update on iodine status worldwide. Current Opinion in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Obesity, 2012, 19(5):382–387.
- Marketing of foods high in fat, salt and sugar to children: update 2012–2013. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2013 (http://www.euro.who.int/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_\_file/0019/191125/e96859.pdf, accessed 10 October 2013).